

which Mr. Fisk's estimate was founded, and from which it was engrossed—it would have been in my power ere this time, by inserting in their proper places the final results on works finished in 1840, and by substituting exact for proximate calculations, in some instances, to have supplied to the Directors a satisfactory estimate.

Without the aid of the reports alluded to (as data) I am unable to submit that estimate now.

And as I presume it is an estimate received from original papers by the experience of 1840, that is desired by the Board, and not a copy of one made in 1839, the document placed in my hands by the Chief Clerk does not advance the present purpose.

In speaking heretofore of the reports of the four Principal Assistant Engineers of 1839, as being *indispensable* to enable a satisfactory estimate to be framed, I mean to be understood, that they are so *indispensable* to the fulfilment of the orders of the Board, owing to the limited time allotted to me.

For it is manifestly practicable, by great labor, to restore from the primary levels of the ground and from plans of the work, all the information condensed in these reports, but it must also be equally evident, that in many instances this will be merely moving over ground already travelled, producing a waste of time totally unnecessary if the Company were not debarred possession of their own property.

Nevertheless, this labor of restoration has been commenced and will be persevered in, until a result is attained, which it will be my earnest endeavor to make as satisfactory as circumstances will permit.

I am gentlemen, very truly and

Respectfully your obd't. serv't.

ELLWOOD MORRIS, Chief Eng.